



Statement of Values and Philosophy Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and explain the vision, mission and objectives of our school.

POLICY

Narre Warren North Primary School is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and members of our community. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our school and parents and carers to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating an inclusive and safe school environment for our students.

The programs and teaching at Narre Warren North Primary School support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to:

- elected government
- the rule of law
- equal rights for all before the law
- freedom of religion
- freedom of speech and association
- the values of openness and tolerance.

This policy outlines our school's vision, mission, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website.

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and Philosophy in our school community, we

- display posters and banners that promote your values in our school
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

1. Vision

Narre Warren North Primary School provides a safe and happy learning environment, in which children are able to achieve their potential. It is a school where trust, respect and valuing others are fundamental beliefs.

Our school's vision is to prepare young people to become active, engaged and responsible citizens of the local and global community. It aims to prepare students to live in a dynamic 21st century in which creativity, cooperative work, connectedness to the world and adaptability are key features.



2. Mission

Narre Warren North Primary School is committed to educational excellence and providing children with the opportunity to learn to the best of their ability.

At Narre Warren North Primary School we are committed to give our students a grounding in the '4 Pillars of Learning' needed to be successful in life:

Learning to Know - being literate and numerate and being able to expand knowledge to understand the world and act effectively in that world.

Learning to Do/Apply - being able to use ICT effectively and to build knowledge of digital literacies, being able to put into practice the necessary skills learned in all curriculum areas to everyday life and developing qualities such as communication, teambuilding and problem solving skills.

Learning to Live Together - celebrating and valuing diversity; showing mutual respect, empathy and concern for others and the world we live in through the development of social skills and restorative practices.

Learning to Be - living the important values in life including our school values to assist students in having the personal resources and intellectual tools needed to understand the world and behave as fair-minded, responsible human beings.

3. OBJECTIVE

Our school's objectives are considered as part of the 4 yearly strategic planning process and reflected in the goals listed in our current School Strategic Plan (SSP). We also develop an Annual Implementation Plan to operationalise the goals and key improvement strategies contained in our SSP.

4. Values

Narre Warren North Primary School's values are **Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Persistence** and **Honesty**.

Respect

Respect involves valuing others' opinions, feelings, and differences. It means treating classmates, teachers, and staff with kindness and consideration. Respect fosters a positive learning environment where everyone feels safe and valued, promoting collaboration and understanding.

Responsibility

Responsibility in school means being accountable for one's actions, including completing work on time, participating in class, and taking care of school property. It encourages students to recognise the impact of their choices and to develop self-discipline, which is essential for personal and academic success.

Resilience

Resilience refers to the ability to bounce back from challenges or setbacks. In school, this value encourages students to face difficulties, whether academic or personal, with a positive



attitude and a determination to keep trying. Resilience helps students develop coping strategies and a growth mindset, essential for lifelong learning.

Honesty

Honesty in school means being truthful in communication, whether it's about one's work, feelings, or interactions with others. This value fosters trust among students and teachers, creating an atmosphere where everyone can rely on each other. It also emphasises the importance of integrity in academics, such as avoiding cheating or plagiarism.

Persistence

Persistence is about continuing to strive toward goals despite obstacles or failures. At school this means students keep working on challenging subjects, seek help when needed, and do not give up easily. Developing persistence helps students build confidence and encourages a strong work ethic, crucial for future challenges.

Together, these values create a supportive and effective learning environment that promotes personal growth and academic achievement. Our aim is for all children to reach their full potential and take responsibility for their own learning.

5. Behavioural expectations

Narre Warren North Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture.

Staff have a range of expectations around behaviour and must follow our school and Department policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values. Teaching staff also adhere to the [Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#).

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) and our Respect for School Staff Policy.

Narre Warren North Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture. We acknowledge a shared responsibility to create a positive learning environment for the children and young people at our school.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone

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- ensure all parents/carers are aware of the expectations outlined in the Department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments
- plan, implement and review our work to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students at school
- identify and support students who are or may be at risk
- do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential
- work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions when required
- inform parents of the school's communication and complaints procedures
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

As teachers and non-teaching school staff, we will:

- model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- proactively engage with parents about student outcomes
- work with parents to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs
- communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community, in line with the Department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy.
- ensure our child attends school on time, every day the school is open for instruction
- take an interest in our child's school and learning
- work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child
- communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
- support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students
- follow the school's processes for communication with staff and making complaints
- treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.



As students, we will:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- comply with and model school values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- actively participate in school
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

As community members, we will:

- model positive behaviour to the school community
- treat other members of the school community with respect
- support school staff to maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students
- utilise the school's processes for communication with staff and submitting complaints.

6. Unreasonable behaviours

Schools are not public places, and the Principal has the right to permit or deny entry to school grounds (for more information, see our *Visitors Policy*).

Unreasonable behaviour that is demonstrated by school staff, parents, carers, students or members of our school community will not be tolerated at school, or during school activities.

Unreasonable behaviour includes:

- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media, or over the telephone
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- discriminatory or derogatory comments
- the use of social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about the school, staff or students.

Harassment, bullying, violence, aggression, threatening behaviour and unlawful discrimination are unacceptable and will not be tolerated at our school.

Unreasonable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the principles of this *Statement of Values and School Philosophy* may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences by the school Principal.

At the Principal's discretion, unreasonable behaviour may be managed by:

- requesting that the parties attend a mediation or counselling sessions
- implementing specific communication protocols

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- written warnings
- conditions of entry to school grounds or school activities
- exclusion from school grounds or attendance at school activities
- reports to Victoria Police
- legal action

Inappropriate student behaviour will be managed in accordance with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and *Bullying Prevention Policy*.

Our *Statement of Values and School Philosophy* ensures that everyone in our school community will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, we will strive to create a school that is inclusive and safe, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook
- Included in the newsletter
- Made available in hard copy upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community](#)
- [Respectful Workplaces](#)
- [Parent Complaints](#)
- [Work-Related Violence in Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2024
Approved by	School Council – 15 th October 2024
Next scheduled review date	Before October 2028